

TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL – JUNE 14, 2016

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At 1:10 a.m., the City Council adjourned to Tuesday, June 21, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. for a closed session, with the regular meeting commencing at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber.

**MINUTES OF AN ADJOURNED REGULAR
MEETING OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance City Council convened in an adjourned regular session at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 14, 2016 in the Council Chamber at Torrance City Hall.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Ashcraft, Barnett, Goodrich, Griffiths, Rizzo, Weideman and Mayor Furey.

Absent: None.

Present: City Manager Jackson, Assistant City Manager Giordano, City Attorney Fellows, City Clerk Poirier and other staff representatives.

Agenda Item 14 was considered out of order at this time.

14. CLOSED SESSION

The City Council immediately recessed to closed session to confer with the City Manager and the City Attorney on agenda matters listed under 18A) Real Property – Conference with Real Property Negotiator, pursuant to California Government Code § 54956.8.

The City Council reconvened at 7:01 p.m. with all members present. No formal action was taken on any matter considered in closed session.

2. FLAG SALUTE/ INVOCATION

The flag salute was led by Councilmember Ashcraft.

The non-sectarian invocation was given by Councilmember Barnett.

3. REPORT OF CITY CLERK ON POSTING OF THE AGENDA/ MOTION TO WAIVE FURTHER READING

City Clerk Poirier reported that the agenda was posted on the Public Notice Board at 3031 Torrance Boulevard on Thursday, June 9, 2016.

MOTION: Councilmember Rizzo moved that after the City Clerk has read aloud the number and title to any resolution or ordinance on the meeting agenda, the further reading thereof shall be waived, reserving and guaranteeing to each Councilmember the right to demand the reading of any such resolution or ordinance in regular order. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Weideman and passed by unanimous vote.

4. WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

Agenda Item 9I was moved to 10 Hearings. Supplemental material was available for Items 6D, 8D, 8E, 8I, 8M 8P, 9A, 9G and 9H.

5. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Furey requested that the City Council meeting be adjourned in memory of former Torrance Councilman George Brewster who passed away on June 9, 2016 at the age of 83.

Mayor Furey announced that Item 9I was inadvertently listed under Administrative Matters and will be removed from the Administrative Matters section of the agenda and heard under 10 Hearings.

Mayor Furey, with the concurrence of Council, requested that staff return with an item to subsidize the fees for the use of the Ken Miller Center for the monthly meetings of the Torrance Artists Guild from July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017.

Mayor Furey, with the concurrence of Council, requested that the City of Torrance co-sponsor an informational event with the Department of Children and Family Services for anyone interested in becoming a foster or adoptive parent. He noted that the event will be held on Saturday, September 17, 2016 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Toyota Automotive Museum, with additional information available at www.shareyourheartLA.org.

6. COMMUNITY MATTERS

6A. RESOLUTION NO. 2016-57 RE EDWARD DESBIENS

RESOLUTION NO. 2016-57

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE
HONORING POLICE OFFICER EDWARD DESBIENS UPON HIS RETIREMENT
FROM THE CITY OF TORRANCE AFTER TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF SERVICE

MOTION: Councilmember Griffiths moved to adopt Resolution No. 2016-57. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by unanimous vote.

To be presented at a later date.

6B. RECOGNITION OF SOUTH TORRANCE HIGH ROBOTICS TEAM

Mayor Furey recognized the South Torrance High Robotics Team for winning the Galileo Division at the First Robotics Competition and presented a certificate to the team.

6C. RECOGNITION OF OUTGOING COMMISSIONERS

Mayor Furey recognized Scott Gobble for his dedicated service on the Environmental Quality and Energy Conservation Commission and Steve Skoll for his dedicated service on various City commissions totaling 24 years.

Agenda Item 7 was considered out of order at this time.

7. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #1

The following 8 people spoke: Mike Kosidlak, Stephen Vaccarezza, Erika Snow Robinson, Carol Gilles, David Young, Janet Payne, Arthur Schaper, and Charles Deemer.

6D. URBAN COYOTE MANAGEMENT PLAN WORKSHOP

Recommendation of the Chief of Police that City Council implement the Urban Coyote Management Plan.

With the aid of slides, Police Captain Vukotic provided background information about coyote behavior, offered tips for co-existing with them, and reviewed the City's Urban Coyote Management Plan.

Mayor Furey invited public comment.

Marc Danziger, Southwood Riviera Homeowners Association, expressed concerns about the large population of habituated coyotes in and around Lago Seco Park. He recommended that the City trim hedges that serve as their habitat at the park and set traps in the Walteria Reservoir.

Suzan Hubert, Friends of Madrona Marsh, voiced objections to the trapping and killing of coyotes and called for more efforts to educate the public so that residents and coyotes can peacefully coexist.

Karen Fitch urged that only humane methods be used to control the coyote population.

N.R.M., Union Members for the Preservation of Wildlife, voiced objections to the killing of wild animals using taxpayer dollars.

Jim Sharp recommended that the school district become involved in public outreach efforts; that educational material be included in water bills; and that signs be posted at parks to alert people that there is a coyote problem.

Karen Galvin reported on coyote sightings at Hickory Park; doubted that coyote hazing would be effective in controlling the problem because they show no fear of people; and related her belief that concerns about trapping were outweighed by the need to protect people's pets.

Margaret O'Regan suggested that the City try using the TNR (Trap, Neuter, Release) method to control the coyote population as it was very successful in reducing the feral cat population at Wilson Park.

Matthew Duncan contended that trapping was ineffective in controlling the coyote population and recommended that people take steps to protect their pets, such as keeping cats indoors.

Harold Pick, Union Members for the Preservation of Wildlife, urged that an effort be made to educate the public about how to peacefully coexist with coyotes instead of trapping them.

Catherine Feher-Elston explained that coyotes are “essential predators” and as such they fulfill an essential role, including preying on vermin that carry human-killing diseases like hantavirus, bubonic plague and typhus. She expressed concerns that people’s pets may be caught in traps.

Rebecca Dmytryk, Humane Wildlife Control, contended that trapping is not effective in controlling the coyote population and urged that resources be used to educate and retrain the public how to coexist with them.

S. Vincent Lloyd voiced support for the Urban Coyote Management Plan, but related his belief that trapping and culling should only be used as a last resort.

Randi Feilich, Project Coyote, reported that she lives in Calabasas, which has a successful Coyote Management Plan that does not involve trapping, and noted that other large cities including Los Angeles and San Francisco have not had to resort to trapping. She offered her organization’s assistance in helping the City find a long-term humane solution to the coyote problem.

Constance Vadheim commended the City for developing a well-balanced Coyote Management Plan. She suggested that the City consider using trained professionals who employ more aggressive behavior modification methods to retrain problem coyotes.

Beatrice Simpson stated that the City of Arcadia abandoned the trapping of coyotes after it was found to be ineffective, noting that snare traps inflict pain and are indiscriminate in the animals they catch. She recommended that all cats be kept indoors and suggested the use of roller guards to deter coyotes from entering backyards.

Ed Simpson reported that when a similar problem occurred in South Pasadena, an Animal Commission was appointed to study animal issues and make recommendations. He urged the City to work with Project Coyote because they have great expertise in this area.

Randal Massaro, Union Members for the Preservation of Wildlife, voiced objections to the trapping of wildlife and suggested that the City could be hurt economically should animal rights groups decide to boycott Torrance.

Alissa Materman reported that she and her dog were chased by a coyote in the Hickory Park area, which resulted in several minutes of sheer terror until the police arrived and chased it away, and recommended that the City trap a few coyotes in problem areas, a tactic that has proven effective in Laguna Beach. She also recommended that 911 operators be trained to coach those approached by a coyote on how to react and that signs be installed in parks to warn visitors.

Michael Bell commented positively on the proposed Urban Coyote Management Plan, with the exception of trapping. He related his experience that trapping does not work and stressed the need to take precautions and supervise pets.

Donna Perkins voiced objections to the trapping of coyotes, stating that snare traps have been banned in the City of Los Angeles because they are inhumane. She urged that funding be spent to educate the public and suggested the use of signs like those in Palos Verdes that warn of coyotes and offer do’s and don’ts.

Cathy Morris reported that her family has had two encounters with coyotes in her front yard in the Hickory Park area, one involving the killing of a cat and the other a confrontation with her dog, and urged that something be done about this problem.

David Young asked about the status of TNR programs for feral cats in Torrance, and City Manager Jackson advised that staff was recommending that the feeding of feral cats be banned in parks and other public spaces because it encourages coyotes to come to those sites.

Mr. Young recommended that the City reconsider this ban because several peer-reviewed studies by respected organizations have confirmed that TNR (trap, neuter, release) programs are effective in reducing the population of feral cats.

David Frieden commended the City for its comprehensive and proactive approach to dealing with this issue. He urged the Council to focus on the concerns of residents rather than animal rights activists from other cities. He expressed support for a TNR program, but related his belief that coyotes that have attacked pets need to be removed from the area.

Mario Obejas suggested that in addition to eliminating food sources for coyotes, the City find ways to limit their access to the Walteria Reservoir, which appears to be their primary source of water since reports of coyote activity are clustered around it. He also expressed support for a TNR program.

Nancy Michael urged the Council to listen to Torrance residents and not be bullied by people who do not live here. She reported that her two dogs were killed in her backyard by a coyote that jumped over a fence, relating her understanding that once a coyote is no longer afraid of humans it cannot be retrained and must be removed.

Bonnie Nicholson reported that her dog was killed by a coyote in her backyard near Hickory Park and called for the City to trap them.

Joe Gonzales urged the Council to take aggressive action to address the coyote problem. He explained that some of the suggested preventative measures are too costly and impractical for residents and voiced his opinion that people who live in an urban area like Torrance should not be expected to live with this threat.

Cindy Mitchell reported that her dog was viciously attacked by a coyote in her yard, which is near the civic center, and stressed the need to inform people that coyotes are able to jump fences so they can take action to protect their pets. She commended the City for coming up with a comprehensive Urban Coyote Management Plan.

Laura Rubio submitted information from the Humane Society indicating that hazing is more effective than trapping when dealing with a coyote problem and suggested that door hangers and water bill inserts be used to educate residents because they need to learn how to coexist.

Peter Dmiri recommended that the City engage in discussions with animal rescue groups concerning the decision to prohibit the feeding of feral cats in parks due to the impact on TNR programs.

Lloyd Morrison expressed concerns that he now must arm himself with a broomstick and remain hyper-vigilant when walking his dog, noting that he has lived in the South Bay for almost 65 years and the coyote problem is unprecedented.

Tina Barclay reported that she installed special lighting, which works to deter coyotes from her property at night, however, she recently spotted one in front of her house near Lago Seco Park in the middle of the afternoon. She explained that roller guards are cost prohibitive as one segment of her fence would cost over \$700. She expressed concerns that trash left at the park after weekends is attracting coyotes and voiced objections to the feeding of feral cats at the park. She suggested that the police department's mobile app be expanded to include a map of coyote sightings.

Janet West wanted to emphasize that people who have pets have a different perspective on this issue as opposed to those who don't.

Marcia Banin expressed concerns that she can no longer relax and enjoy her backyard because coyotes have become emboldened and wander her neighborhood near the WALTERIA Reservoir in the middle of the day.

Amy Matthews reported that she has lost three cats in the last three weeks from her home near Alondra Park and has observed coyotes in the neighborhood. She voiced support for a TNR program for coyotes and for continuing the TNR program for feral cats, noting that in addition to feral cats, there are also many abandoned cats at the park.

Debra Corwin, PURRfect Partners, expressed concerns about the proposed ban on the feeding of feral and abandoned cats at parks. She urged the Council to consider requiring that all pets be spayed and neutered.

Patrick Garvey voiced concerns that City-provided trash bins cannot be latched.

Katie Verasing reported that her cat narrowly escaped a coyote in front of her house in the Victoria Knolls area and suggested that the City look into ways to lure coyotes back to their natural habitat.

Xia Wang related her belief that the coyote problem has gotten out of control and urged the Council to take action to protect residents.

Lavon Heinemann stated that she has never had a problem with coyotes in the 50 years she has lived in Torrance until now and she is very fearful about the safety of her dogs.

In response to Mayor Furey's inquiry, Police Chief Matsuda reported that the WALTERIA Reservoir is controlled by L.A. County and the City will be working with them to target this area since it has experienced a great increase in coyote activity.

Asked about the feasibility of a TNR program for coyotes, Lieutenant Smirl, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, stated that they do not recommend the trapping and neutering of wild animals and he believes the coyote problem is best addressed by the plan devised by the City.

Nature Center Manager/Naturalist Drake discussed efforts to discourage coyotes from making a home at the Madrona Marsh, and City Manager Jackson noted that steps are also being taken at City parks and sumps to trim vegetation where they might live.

Mayor Furey suggested that consideration be given to installing signage to warn visitors at parks, and Police Chief Matsuda reported that this tactic was not successful when it was tried

in Laguna Beach because signs were either stolen or ignored. He offered to explore adding a pin map showing coyote sightings to the police department's mobile app.

Councilmember Weideman asked about claims that trapping was ineffective.

Lieutenant Smirl advised that trapping is not a long-term solution and emphasized the importance of educating the public.

Police Chief Matsuda explained that staff has learned from other cities that have used trapping that there is an initial decline in the coyote population and staff plans to use this respite to better educate the public on how to coexist with them.

Councilmember Goodrich recommended that efforts to educate the public be expanded and suggested the possibility of holding workshops similar to this in different areas of the city.

Lieutenant Smirl reported that his agency will be working with the City to establish a Wildlife Watch program, which is similar to the Neighborhood Watch program, to help educate the community. He noted that Laguna Beach is integrating its Community Emergency Response Team into its Wildlife Watch program and Councilmember Goodrich suggested that this may be a good way to make use of the City's CERT volunteers since they tend to be underutilized.

Councilmember Goodrich asked about using paint ball guns to haze coyotes, and Police Chief Matsuda reported that this technique has been effective in other cities and the police department was looking into using it.

Referring to the chart entitled Coyote Behavior, Behavior Classification and Recommended Response (Coyote Management Plan – Appendix B), Councilmember Goodrich related his understanding that trapping is recommended only for Level Red, however staff was recommending trapping at the current Level Orange.

Police Chief Matsuda explained that this recommendation was based on the totality of the events that have occurred and the experience of other cities that were just beyond the level Torrance is at when they saw an escalation of the problem to the extent that it threatened public safety.

Councilmember Goodrich noted that the Threat Level Tiered Response section of the Coyote Management Plan does not mention attacks on unattended pets and related his belief that there should be a differentiation between attacks on attended and unattended pets. He also objected to classifying an incident in which a coyote enters a yard where there are people present and no injury occurs as Level Red.

Lieutenant Smirl advised that the Department of Fish and Wildlife scale of threat levels focuses on the threat to humans: Code Green – coyote sightings; Code Yellow – imminent threat; Code Red – coyote has made contact or bit a human. He noted that 6 people were bitten in Irvine, 5 of whom were three years old or younger and voiced his opinion that it was important to have the option of a lethal take in the Management Plan to deal with this type of situation.

Councilmember Goodrich asked for assurance that a snare trap is the most humane method of trapping coyotes.

A representative of Critter Busters Pest Control confirmed that snare traps are the most humane, explaining that they are designed to be canine specific to avoid ensnaring other animals and this type of trap is recommended by U.C. Davis a recognized expert in the field.

Lieutenant Smirl also confirmed that a snare trap is the most humane method of trapping currently available, noting that using a firearm is too dangerous in an urban area.

Councilmember Goodrich requested that staff continue to research this issue.

The City Council recessed from 10:37 to 10:48 p.m.

Councilmember Ashcraft asked if the large construction project underway in Palos Verdes has caused coyotes from that area to migrate into Torrance.

City Manager Jackson advised that although the construction project might have dislodged a few coyotes, the drought is the primary cause of the shift in the population.

Noting that the Council's first priority is the safety of residents, Councilmember Ashcraft stated that she does not want the problem to get to the point where someone is bitten and she supports taking whatever measures necessary to keep residents and their pets safe.

In response to Councilmember Ashcraft's inquiry, Police Chief Matsuda confirmed that the City is able to do trapping in the Walteria Reservoir with the permission of L.A. County and it is considered a secure area because it has locked gates and there is no public access.

Councilmember Ashcraft asked how the coyotes that are causing problems can be targeted since the City does not want to indiscriminately trap coyotes.

Lieutenant Smirl explained that the Wildlife Watch program is very helpful in this respect because residents record their observations, which help trappers predict the coyote's behavior, and once caught, DNA testing can be performed to confirm whether or not the coyote was the one involved in an attack.

Councilmember Griffiths voiced support for the Coyote Management Plan. He noted that according to the experience of other cities, trapping does not solve the problem and stressed the importance of educating the public about the need to change their behavior so that they can become part of the solution as opposed to simply expecting someone to protect them. He suggested that residents be encouraged to subscribe to Torrance Alerts, which has been sending out notifications about this issue, and to take advantage of the City's other social media tools.

Also voicing support for the Coyote Management Plan, Councilmember Rizzo emphasized that the City was not planning to use trapping to try to eradicate coyotes. He explained that the trapping will be targeted, that it is meant to give the City time to mount an education campaign, and that it will be used only as a last resort. He suggested using CERT volunteers to go door-to-door to alert people about the problem and encourage them to attend workshops.

Councilmember Griffiths asked about the possibility of using paint ball guns to mark a coyote with a permanent dye as a means of identification, and Police Chief Matsuda agreed to explore this idea.

Mayor Furey clarified that the City was not recommending that the public haze coyotes with paint ball guns.

Councilmember Barnett expressed support for the Coyote Management Plan; commended staff for an excellent presentation; and thanked residents and non-residents for contributing to the discussion.

Mayor Furey commended staff and everyone involved for a very informative workshop. He noted that the Wildlife Watch program will be introduced to residents at National Night Out events on August 2 and stressed the importance of getting the word out about this issue to residents.

City Manager Jackson summarized additions to the Coyote Management Plan per the Council's comments.

Councilmember Goodrich requested that inconsistencies in the Tiered Response Chart that he mentioned earlier be corrected and City Manager Jackson agreed to do so.

MOTION: Councilmember Rizzo move to concur with the staff recommendation, with the following enhancements: Direct staff to work with L.A. County to see if more aggressive action can be taken with regard to WALTERIA Reservoir; to explore a public outreach program using community volunteers to distribute door-hangers; to continue to explore more humane methods of control at Level Red; and to expand the public information/education program, involving the school district and other available resources. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Weideman and passed by unanimous vote.

8. CONSENT CALENDAR

8A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Recommendation of the City Clerk that City Council approve the City Council minutes of May 10, 2016, May 17, 2016 and May 24, 2016.

8B. CONTRACT AMENDMENTS RE PROVISION OF MEDICAL SERVICES

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council:

- 1) Amend contract services agreement (C2014-069) with Western Medical Group of Torrance CA, for an amount not to exceed \$91,800 for the period of July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017, for a new not to exceed three-year total of \$275,400; and
- 2) Amend contract services agreement (C2014-070) with Providence Medical Institute of Torrance CA, for an amount not to exceed \$65,000 for the period July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017, for a new not to exceed three-year total of 195,000.

8C. APRIL 2016 INVESTMENT REPORT

Recommendation of the City Treasurer that City Council accept and file the monthly Investment Report for the month of April 2016.

8D. LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH CHADO TEA ROOM FOR CITY-OWNED PARKING

Recommendation of the Community Development Director that City Council enter into a License Agreement with Chado Tea Room for the use of three parking spaces located on City-owned property at 1332 Post Avenue (APN 7355-026-900) in conjunction with the operation of a restaurant at 1303 El Prado Avenue.

8E. PURCHASE ORDERS FOR AUTOMOTIVE LUBRICATING OILS AND FLUIDS

Recommendation of the General Services Director and Transit Director that City Council:

- 1) Award a purchase order to Jankovich Company of Paramount, CA (B2016-22) in the amount of \$69,032;
- 2) Award a purchase order to Rosemead Oil Products of Santa Fe Springs, CA (B2016-22) in the amount of \$235,791; and
- 3) Award a purchase order to Van De Pol Petroleum of Santa Fe Springs, CA (B2016-22) in the amount of \$135,411.34. All purchase orders are to furnish various automotive lubricating oils and fluids on an as requested basis for a five-year period beginning July 1, 2016 and ending June 30, 2021.

8F. PURCHASE ORDER FOR AUTOMOTIVE BATTERIES

Recommendation of the General Services Director that City Council award a purchase order to Battery Systems Inc. of Garden Grove, CA (RFQ 2017-21) in an amount not to exceed \$96,000 to furnish various automotive batteries on an as needed basis for a two-year period beginning July 1, 2016 and ending June 30, 2018.

8G. PURCHASE ORDER FOR FORD BRAND AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR PARTS

Recommendation of the General Services Director that City Council award a purchase order to Worthington Ford of Long Beach, CA (RFQ 2017-23) in an amount not to exceed \$120,000 to furnish Ford brand automotive repair parts on an as needed basis for a two-year period beginning July 1, 2016 and ending June 30, 2018.

8H. SOFTWARE HOSTING, SUPPORT AND MAINTENANCE SERVICES AGREEMENTS

Recommendation of the General Services, Transit, and Information Technology Directors that City Council authorize payment to AssetWorks, Inc. of La Jolla, CA (C2005-057) in the amount of \$71,963.15 for the annual renewal of hosting, support and maintenance service agreements of the City's FleetFocus FA™ and FuelFocus™ software systems for a one-year period beginning August 1, 2016 and ending July 31, 2017.

8I. PURCHASE ORDER RE EQUIPMENT FOR POLICE PATROL VEHICLES

Recommendation of the General Services Director and Chief of Police that City Council award a purchase order to Stommel Inc. dba Lehr of Anaheim, CA to furnish and install communication, lighting, and miscellaneous equipment for eighteen (18) Police patrol vehicles in the amount of \$222,727.50 (including sales tax).

8J. 2016 EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL JAG APPLICATION

Recommendation of the Chief of Police that City Council approve the 2016 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant application.

8K. FEE AGREEMENT RE LEGAL SERVICES

Recommendation of the City Attorney that City Council approve a fee agreement with the law firm of Rutan & Tucker, LLP of Costa Mesa, CA, regarding the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board for a contract amount not to exceed \$30,000.

8L. FEE AGREEMENT RE LEGAL SERVICES

Recommendation of the City Attorney that City Council:

- 1) Appropriate \$200,000 from the Transit Fund Balance; and
- 2) Approve a fee agreement with Selman Breitman LLP of Santa Ana, CA regarding Miguel Ramos, et al. v. City of Torrance, et al., in an amount not to exceed \$200,000.

8M. AGREEMENT RE E-BOOKS AND DIGITAL AUDIOBOOKS

Considered separately, see page 12.

8N. AGREEMENTS RE NORTH TORRANCE WELL FIELD PROJECT AND RECYCLED WATER RETROFITS FOR SOUTH HIGH

Recommendation of the Public Works Director that City Council:

- 1) Award a consulting services agreement with KOA Corporation of Monterey Park, CA (RFP B2016-23) for an amount not to exceed \$174,520 to perform construction support services for the North Torrance Well Field Project, Phase II, I-108 and Recycled Water Retrofits for South High School and Calle Mayor Middle School for two-year period beginning June 14, 2016 and ending June 13, 2018; and
- 2) Approve an agreement with Torrance Unified School District ("TUSD") that establishes the terms and conditions for TUSD to reimburse the City of Torrance for half the total cost (not to exceed \$87,854.25), for Recycled Water Retrofits for South High School and Calle Mayor Middle School, including the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California recycled water retrofit rebate funds.

8O. PROPOSED JOB DESCRIPTIONS FOR TRANSIT MANAGEMENT POSITIONS

Recommendation of the Human Resources Administrator that City Council approve the proposed job description for Deputy Transit Director and revised job description for Transit Manager, Administration.

8P. CONTRACT RE LIABILITY CLAIMS ADMINISTRATION SERVICES

Recommendation of the Finance Director that City Council approve a one-year contract with Carl Warren & Company of Placentia, California to provide liability claims administration services from July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017 at an annual cost of \$113,688.

8Q. PURCHASE ORDER FOR REPLACEMENT DESKTOP COMPUTERS AND MONITORS

Recommendation of the Chief of Police and Information Technology Director that City Council:

- 1) Appropriate \$46,526.42 from the Police Computer Replacement Fund; and
- 2) Authorize a purchase order to Golden Star Technology (GST) of Cerritos, CA to purchase sixty (60) replacement desktop computers and monitors for the Police Department.

MOTION: Councilmember Ashcraft moved to approve Consent Calendar Items 8A through 8Q, with the exception of 8M. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Goodrich and passed by unanimous vote.

Item 8M was considered separately at this time.

8M. AGREEMENT RE E-BOOKS AND DIGITAL AUDIOBOOKS

Recommendation of the Community Services Director that City Council approve a three-year agreement with Baker & Taylor, LLC., of Charlotte, NC (B2016-12) in the amount not to exceed \$220,000 to furnish eBooks and digital audiobooks platform and service for the Torrance Public Library beginning July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2019, with option to renew annually thereafter.

Councilmember Ashcraft requested clarification as to why the lowest priced vendor was not selected for this contract.

City Librarian Theyer explained that the lowest priced vendor had a different pricing model that was less advantageous and did not offer the same array of current best sellers, which are in great demand by the public.

MOTION: Councilmember Ashcraft moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Goodrich and passed by unanimous vote.

9. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

9A. AGREEMENT RE UNARMED SECURITY SERVICES

Recommendation of the City Manager, Community Services Director, and Transit Director that City Council approve a contract services agreement with Absolute Security International, Inc. dba Absolute International Security, of Covina, CA (Absolute International Security) to provide unarmed security services for the City of Torrance (RFP B2016-13) for a three-year contract, with two one-year options from July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2019, at a cost not to exceed \$893,306.28 for the initial three years.

Assistant to the City Manager Sunshine provided a summary of the staff report.

MOTION: Councilmember Rizzo moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Weideman and passed by unanimous vote.

Agenda Item 9J was considered out of order at this time.

9J. SELECTION OF VENDOR FOR CITYWIDE WEBSITE REDESIGN

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council concur with the City Council Ad Hoc Citywide Website Redesign Committee and Citywide Web Redesign Team to award contract to Vision Technology Solutions, LLC, of El Segundo, CA to redesign and host for 5 years of the City's website for an amount not to exceed \$276,747.

Cable & Community Relations Manager Smith provided a summary of the staff report.

Councilmember Griffiths, chair of the Citywide Web Redesign Team, briefly highlighted some of the improved features of the new website and expressed the hope that the project will be completed on schedule.

Councilmember Ashcraft, Web Redesign Team member, noted that Vision Technology is located in El Segundo, which will make interaction with City staff easier to coordinate.

Mayor Furey thanked staff and the Redesign Team for their efforts.

Councilmember Goodrich, Web Redesign Team member, also thanked staff.

MOTION: Councilmember Rizzo moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Weideman and passed by unanimous vote.

9B. SALE AND INSSUANCE OF 2016-17 TAX REVENUE ANTICIPATION NOTES

Recommendation of the Finance Director that City Council adopt a Resolution approving the sale and issuance of Fiscal Year 2016-17 Tax Revenue Anticipation Notes (TRAN) not to exceed \$43,000,000.

Finance Director Tsao provided a summary of the staff report.

Councilmember Griffiths noted that the sale/issuance of these notes yields cost savings for the City and commended Finance Director Tsao for his prudent management.

Responding to Councilmember Ashcraft's inquiry, Finance Director Tsao explained why it was not feasible to borrow funds from the City's investment portfolio instead of issuing these notes.

MOTION: Councilmember Rizzo moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Weideman and passed by unanimous vote.

MOTION: Councilmember Griffiths move to adopt Resolution No. 2016-58. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by unanimous vote.

9C. RECLASSIFICATION OF SENIOR BUSINESS MANAGER TO ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES MANAGER

Recommendation of the Civil Service Commission and the Human Resources Administrator that City Council approve reclassification of incumbent Senior Business Manager (Community Services) to Administrative Services Manager per the Torrance Municipal Code (TMC) Section 14.2.3(c) Allocation of New Positions: Re-Allocations.

Human Resources Manager Lawrence reviewed the staff recommendation.

MOTION: Councilmember Rizzo moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Weideman and passed by unanimous vote.

9D. ORDINANCE RE FLOOD HAZARD INSURANCE

Recommendation of the Community Development Director that City Council:

- 1) Adopt an Ordinance amending portions of Chapter 9 of Division 7 of the Torrance Municipal Code entitled Flood Hazard Insurance; and
- 2) Approve an Ordinance Summary for publication.

Associate Civil Engineer Symons briefly reviewed the proposed amendments.

Councilmember Ashcraft noted that the FEMA Flood Zone Map included in the agenda item was small and hard to read.

Community Development Director Gibson reported that the map is available on the City's website under the General Plan and agreed to post an enlarged version.

MOTION: Councilmember Rizzo moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Weideman and passed by unanimous vote.

MOTION: Councilmember Griffiths moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3802. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by unanimous vote.

9E. 2016-17 APPROPRIATIONS LIMIT AND SELECTION OF ANNUAL ADJUSTMENT FACTORS

Recommendation of the Finance Director that City Council adopt a RESOLUTION approving the City of Torrance appropriations limit for fiscal year 2016-17 in the amount of \$2,773,049,887; and selection of the percentage change in State per Capita Personal Income as the cost of living factor, together with the increase in the County's population, as the annual adjustment factors for the same fiscal year.

Administrative Analyst Yun provided a brief summary of the staff report.

MOTION: Councilmember Rizzo moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Weideman and passed by unanimous vote.

MOTION: Councilmember Griffiths move to adopt Resolution No. 2016-59. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by unanimous vote.

9F. PURCHASE ORDER FOR 2017 FORD POLICE INTERCEPTOR UTILITY VEHICLES

Recommendation of the General Services Director and Chief of Police that City Council award a purchase order to AutoNation Ford Torrance of Torrance, CA for eighteen (18) 2017 Ford Police Interceptor Utility AWD vehicles in the amount of \$609,947.10 (including sales tax).

Fleet Services Manager Botiller reviewed the staff recommendation.

Responding to questions from the Council, Fleet Services Manager Botiller reported that the price includes a 1% sales tax incentive since the dealership is located in Torrance and discussed the criteria used to determine which vehicles should be replaced.

MOTION: Councilmember Rizzo moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Weideman and passed by unanimous vote.

9G. ORDINANCE PROHIBITING SHORT TERM RENTALS

Recommendation of the Community Development Director that City Council:

- 1) Adopt an Ordinance prohibiting Short Term Rentals within the City of Torrance. This ordinance is Categorically Exempt from CEQA per Guidelines section 15061(b)(3) because there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment; and
- 2) Approve an Ordinance Summary for publication.

Planning Associate Martinez provided a brief summary of the proposed Ordinance, which would prohibit short term rentals within the City of Torrance.

Mayor Furey invited public comment.

Ted Jones, Del Amo Rotary Club member, stated that the Rotary Club has a world-wide home exchange program, which he would not want to be jeopardized by this ordinance.

City Attorney Fellows responded that he did not believe the Rotary program would be affected because it does not involve the exchanging of money, but the Ordinance could be amended to clarify this issue.

Janet West, speaking on behalf on of Arthur Schaper, voiced objections to the prohibition of short term rentals due to the imposition on property rights and recommended that appropriate regulations be adopted instead.

Bob and Diane Solomon voiced objections to the proposed ordinance, explaining that they rent out their home on a short-term basis to supplement their retirement income. They suggested that the City explore allowing short-term rentals on a test basis or grant an exemption for homeowners who rent out rooms within their residence while they are present.

Janet Payne requested clarification as to whether the Torrance Women's Club would be negatively affected by the proposed ordinance because they rent out their clubhouse, which is located in a residential neighborhood, for parties and events.

Community Development Director Gibson advised that the ordinance applies to overnight stays so the clubhouse would not be affected.

Noting that she has stayed in short-term rentals around the world, Ms. Payne voiced her opinion that the City should regulate them instead of banning them.

Steven Bruechle expressed support for the proposed ordinance, explaining that someone has rented a house in his Waltheria neighborhood and turned it into a short-term rental and this has led to an influx of people who take up street parking, which is already in short supply. He

contended that if the City is going to allow short-term rentals, the operator should have to obtain a Business License, pay bed taxes and provide on-site parking for guests.

Maureen Baker reported that she lives in the same Walteria neighborhood and there are people coming and going from the rental at all hours of the day and night and there are even people living in the garage. She submitted a letter from another neighbor who is opposed to allowing short-term rentals due to safety concerns.

Commissioner Griffiths noted that he was initially opposed to allowing short-term rentals because he feared it would disrupt quiet residential neighborhoods, but after speaking with advocates and learning more about it, he now believes some short term rentals can be allowed with appropriate regulations. He indicated however, that he would consider a short moratorium while the City drafts regulations since it is clear that some short-term rentals are causing problems.

Councilmember Ashcraft explained that when she and her husband obtained a Torrance Business License for their home-based business, they had to agree that they would not have clients come to their home or disrupt the neighborhood. She related her belief that short-term rentals also qualify as businesses and should not be allowed due to the impact on neighbors, noting that she has received many complaints about this issue.

Councilmember Weideman stated that he was also initially opposed to allowing short-term rentals, but has come to believe that it's better to regulate them because it offers the City more control when there are problems and because banning them could create a black market.

Councilmember Goodrich indicated that he also had concerns about allowing short-term rentals when the issue first came up, however after learning more about them, he now favors a compromise that takes into account residents' safety and preserves the peace in the neighborhood while allowing those who wish to augment their income to do so. He suggested the possibility of requiring the owner of the property to be on the premises while it is being rented. He voiced his opinion that anyone operating a short-term rental should have to pay TOT (transient occupancy taxes) to achieve parity with hotels.

Mayor Furey reported that he has had positive experiences in short-term rentals operated by Airbnb in Catalina and across the country and it has been his position from the beginning that they should be regulated, not banned. He suggested that consideration be given to allowing only the owner of a property to operate a short-term rental and placing a limitation on the number of short-term rentals to be allowed within Torrance. He recommended that neighbors contact Code Enforcement staff about the rental property in Walteria because there appears to be violations of existing regulations.

Karen Bruechle clarified that the short-term rental in her neighborhood is not like the typical Airbnb rental and guests act in a way that she would characterize as sneaky.

Mayor Furey pointed out that regulating short-term rentals could help prevent problematic rentals like the one in Walteria.

Councilmember Goodrich asked if short-term rental websites like Airbnb have a system that allows them to collect the transient occupancy tax and forward it to the city.

Diane Solomon reported that Airbnb does have a system for collecting occupancy taxes and forwards them to the appropriate city on a quarterly basis and is currently doing so in Santa Monica and Malibu.

MOTION: Councilmember Griffiths moved to reject the ordinance and direct staff to return with options for regulating short-term rentals. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Weideman and discussion briefly continued.

City Attorney Fellows requested direction from the Council with regard to options they would like to consider.

Councilmember Ashcraft requested that any future agenda item provide a detailed list of estimated administrative costs along with estimated revenues, including business license fees and occupancy taxes. She also called for parking standards to be included in regulations, i.e. requiring a certain amount of on-site parking.

Councilmember Griffiths recommended that staff survey other cities that allow short-term rentals and model the City's ordinance after those that have done it successfully, noting that the Los Angeles Short Term Rental Alliance also has experience in drafting this type of ordinance.

Councilmember Ashcraft indicated that she would be more inclined to allow short-term rentals if the hosts/owners remain on the premises.

Councilmember Weideman offered a substitute motion.

MOTION: Councilmember Weideman moved to continue the matter and direct staff to return with options for regulating short-term rentals within 60 days. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Goodrich and passed by a 6-1 vote, with Councilmember Rizzo voting no.

9H. AGREEMENT RE PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Recommendation of the Public Works Director that City Council:

- 1) Adopt finding of a categorical exemption per staff determination, pursuant to Section 15301(c) of the guidelines implementing California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the Pacific Coast Highway from Calle Mayor to Janet Lane Safety Improvement Project, I-133 (B2016-19);
- 2) Approve the plans and specifications for the construction of the Pacific Coast Highway from Calle Mayor to Janet Lane Safety Improvements Project, I-133 (B2016-19); and
- 3) Award a two-year public works agreement to Beador Construction Company, Inc. of Corona, CA (B2016-19) in the amount of \$761,700 and authorize a contingency in the amount of \$90,300 for the construction of the Pacific Coast Highway from Calle Mayor to Janet Lane Safety Improvements Project, I-133 beginning June 14, 2016 through June 13, 2018.

Engineering Manager Overstreet provided a brief summary of the staff report and noted supplemental material available at the meeting.

Councilmember Griffiths expressed his disappointment that the majority of mature trees on this stretch of Pacific Coast Highway will be removed in conjunction with this project, noting that Caltrans has maneuvered around trees and even incorporated them into guardrails to avoid

cutting them down in the past. He called for the remaining trees to be protected and for those that are removed to be replaced as soon as possible.

Councilmember Goodrich commended staff for their persistence in working with Caltrans to move this project forward because these safety improvements are very important to residents.

Karen Morris commented positively on the project, but requested that additional funding be provided for irrigation and landscaping, which is necessary to shield residents from dust, noise and pollution.

MOTION: Councilmember Rizzo moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Weideman and passed by unanimous vote.

9I. CITY OF TORRANCE LIGHTING DISTRICT NO 99-1

Considered under Agenda Item 10 – Hearings, see page 19.

9J. SELECTION OF VENDOR FOR CITYWIDE WEBSITE REDESIGN

Considered out of order, see pages 13.

9K. AGREEMENT RE RESIDENTIAL SLURRY SEAL, ARTERIAL STREET PAVEMENT SEALING AND PALOS VERDES BOULEVARD IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

Recommendation of the Public Works Director that City Council:

- 1) Adopt finding of a categorical exemption per staff determination, pursuant to Section 15301(c) of the guidelines implementing California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the Residential Slurry Seal Program, I-159, Arterial Street Pavement Sealing Program, I-139, and Palos Verdes Boulevard Improvement Project at Via Monte D'Oro and Calle Miramar, I-121 (B2016-24);
- 2) Approve the specifications for the construction of the Residential Slurry Seal Program, I-159, Arterial Street Pavement Sealing Program, I-139, and Palos Verdes Boulevard Improvement Project at Via Monte D'Oro and Calle Miramar, I-121 (B2016-24);
- 3) Waive minor irregularities in the bid proposed by All American Asphalt of Corona, CA; and
- 4) Award a two-year public works agreement to All American Asphalt of Corona, CA (B2016-24) in the amount of \$1,768,182 and authorize a 10% contingency in the amount of \$176,818 for the construction of the Residential Slurry Seal Program, I-159, Arterial Street Pavement Sealing Program, I-139, and Palos Verdes Boulevard Improvement Project at Via Monte D'Oro and Calle Miramar, I-121 beginning June 14, 2016 through June 13, 2018.

Project Engineer Moun provided a brief summary of the projects.

Councilmember Griffiths commended staff for ongoing efforts to improve the City's infrastructure, noting that he has received many compliments from residents regarding street improvements completed last year.

MOTION: Councilmember Rizzo moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Weideman and passed by unanimous vote.

9L. RESOLUTION IMPLEMENTING SALARY RANGE FOR TRANSIT MANAGEMENT POSITIONS

Recommendation of the Human Resources Administrator that City Council adopt a Resolution amending the Executive and Management Employees Resolution No. 2015-58 to implement the salary ranges for Deputy Transit Director, Transit Manager, Administration and Transit Manager, Operations.

Human Resources Manager Lawrence provided a brief summary of the staff report.

MOTION: Councilmember Rizzo moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Weideman and passed by unanimous vote.

MOTION: Councilmember Griffiths moved to adopt Resolution No. 2016-61. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by unanimous vote.

10. HEARINGS

9I. CITY OF TORRANCE LIGHTING DISTRICT NO 99-1

Recommendation of the Public Works Director that City Council:

- 1) Conduct a public hearing on the proposed levy of assessments within the City of Torrance Lighting District No. 99-1 for Fiscal Year 2016-2017; and
- 2) Adopt a Resolution confirming the diagram and assessment for Fiscal Year 2016-17 and ordering the improvements in connection with the City of Torrance Lighting District No. 99-1.

Mayor Furey announced that this was the time and place for a public hearing on this matter. City Clerk Poirier confirmed that the hearing was properly advertised.

Engineering Manager Finton provided a brief summary of the staff report and encouraged residents to report non-functioning street lights to Southern California Edison since they own and maintain them.

Councilmember Weideman recalled that there was discussion in the past about the City's purchasing of streetlights from SCE, and Engineering Manager Finton reported that the City is still in negotiations with SCE regarding this issue.

MOTION: Councilmember Rizzo moved to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Weideman and passed by unanimous vote.

MOTION: Councilmember Rizzo moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Weideman and passed by unanimous vote.

MOTION: Councilmember Griffiths moved to adopt Resolution No. 2016-60. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by unanimous vote.

11. APPEALS – None.

12. SECOND READING ORDINANCES – None.

13. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #2

Joseph Lopez spoke.

Councilmember Barnett, with the concurrence of Council, requested that staff arrange recognition of the North High School Girls Softball Team for winning the CIF championship.

Councilmembers Goodrich, Griffiths, Rizzo, and Ashcraft spoke.

Councilmember Weideman, with the concurrence of Council, requested that staff prepare an informational update regarding improvements of various emergency response items that were discussed and identified at a workshop approximately six months ago, including ExxonMobil sirens, Torrance Alerts, and the shelter-in-place campaign.

Mayor Furey spoke.

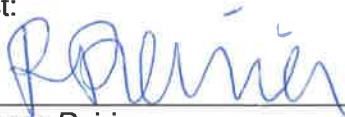
14. CLOSED SESSION

Considered earlier in the meeting, see page 1.

15. ADJOURNMENT

At 1:10 a.m., the City Council adjourned to Tuesday, June 21, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. for a closed session, with the regular meeting commencing at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber.

Attest:



Rebecca Poirier
City Clerk of the City of Torrance



Mayor of the City of Torrance

Approved on July 12, 2016